

LANGE

ESTATE WINERY & VINEYARDS

PINOT NOIR

2017 FREEDOM HILL VINEYARD



THE VINTAGE

After a few dry winters, the 2016-2017 winter provided ample rain and snowpack statewide. The winter gave way to a relatively cool and wet spring compared to the last few years. As a result, bud break started closer to normal in mid-April. The spring warmed up with record heat in late May that initiated flowering. However, a cool June slowed flowering but was followed by record high temperatures producing a very good fruit set. With a warm 2017 vintage, we are able to deliver fruit with a great balance of sugar and acid with lower alcohols and abundant tannins.

THE VINEYARD

This Pinot noir is a blend of fruit from Lange's longtime vineyard partner - Freedom Hill Vineyard, which is planted to marine sedimentary soil. Don, Wendy and Jesse Lange have sourced fruit from the Dusschee family since 1990 and began making its namesake single-vineyard Pinot Noir in 1996. The warm days and cool nights allow for complete fruit ripening while maintaining essential acid balance. The result is a structured and age-worthy wine.

THE WINEMAKING

Throughout the growing season, Winemaker Jesse Lange works closely with vineyard partners to taste for maturity and ripeness to determine the exact moment to pick. Featuring clones Wädenswil, Pommard, 777, 667 and 115, these grapes were hand-picked, hand-sorted, and carefully vinified in small lots. Only free run juice was collected and aged entirely in French oak barrels (40% new French oak).

WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES

The 2017 Freedom Hill Pinot Noir shows a nose of brambly earth, pomegranate, huckleberry, and cigar box. A hint of tobacco precedes a round, velvety palate showing blueberry compote, candied cherry, vanilla, and licorice—all held in balance by fine tannins, elegant acidity, and a finish that lingers.

ACCOLADES

2017 - 97 Points - James Suckling - 93 Points - Vinous, 92 Points - Wine Enthusiast, 90 Points - Wine Advocate,
2016 - 96 Points - James Suckling - 93 Points, "Cellar Selection,"
Wine Enthusiast - 93 Points - Vinous

VARIETAL: 100% Pinot Noir
APPELLATION: Willamette Valley
PRODUCTION: 450 cases
ALCOHOL: 14.1%
RETAIL: \$70.00

